THE SEER.

All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, See Ye, when He lifteth up an Ensign on the Mountains.—*Isaiah* xviii, 3.

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NEW REVELATION.

BY THE EDITOR.

There is no subject which is more ridiculed by the religious world, at the present day, than that of New Revelation. All Christendom profess to admit that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are still in existence, and that they are unchangeable in their attributes, and that there are just as many angels now as in ancient times; but to assert that any of these holy beings have communicated any New Revelation to man since the first century of the Christian era, is considered, if not blasphemy, something near akin to it.

Now a religion that excludes New Revelation from its principles, is just the very religion that suits the devil: he is well pleased with it. He cares not how moral people may be, nor how genteel and polished in their deportment, nor how much they go to church, nor how many prayers they pretend to offer up, nor how pious they may be in every respect, if they will only disbelieve in New Revelation; for he knows well that God has nothing to do, nor never had, with any religion that did not acknowledge Prophets and Revelators, through whom He could speak and reveal His will to his sons and daughters.

The devil knows that God never had a church on the earth without having inspired men in it. No other church gives him any uneasiness. He likes to see them pray and be very sanctimonious, as long as he knows that they have no faith in New Revelation. The devil rejoices, and his angels are glad, when they look over their wide spread dominions, and behold countless churches and synagogues professedly built to the God of ancient revelation, and contemplate the hundreds of millions whom they have deluded with the idea that all New Revelation is unnecessary. So long as the devil can deceive the people with this anti-christian and unscriptural doctrine, he knows that he is sure of them.

How well pleased his satanic majesty must have been, when he prevailed upon the "Third Council of Carthage," at the close of the fourth century, to sit in judgment upon the manuscript copies of the word of God, compiling a few of them into a volume, and rejecting all the others, and then passing an ecclesiastical law that no other books or revelations should ever be added to the canon or volume. This bound all their deluded followers to reject, in every succeeding generation, every thing in the form of New Revelation. Oh! how the hosts of hell must have exulted over their signal success in thus cutting off all further communication between God and man!

And again: what could have more gratified Satan when he found that the religion of the Romish Church

did not altogether suit all the people, than to have them, under the name of Protestants, invent some new forms of religion, excluding prophets, and binding the people to believe in only the sixty-six books of the Bible. This newly invented religion, inasmuch as it made the canon of scripture full, and would in no wise admit prophets to add any new books to the volume, was just as acceptable to the devil as the religion of the Catholics; for what the Catholics did not catch, the other impositions would.

But the moment that God sent angels from heaven to earth, and raised up inspired men, and once more restored the true Christian Church to the earth, the devil, with all his combined armies of Catholics and Protestants, was enraged. For God to dare restore the religion of the Bible again to the earth, by sending prophets and inspired men, by giving visions, and by sending angels, as He did in all other ages when His religion was on the earth, was more than the devil could bear without making a tremendous exertion to put it down. To undertake to put it down by scripture, reason or argument, was entirely in vain, though this was attempted in some few instances at first, but it always resulted in the most disastrous consequences to the devil's kingdom. The devil soon found that there was not the least shadow of evidence to sustain the Catholic and Protestant imposition against the doctrine of continued revelation. This forlorn hope having utterly failed him, his next and most successful operation was to ridicule and denounce the doctrine, and lie about it, and, if possible, to close the eyes, and ears, and hearts of the people effectually against it. But even in this thing he will be defeated; though he may for a time triumph, yet the refuge of lies shall be swept away, and God will show unto the honest in heart, with power and great glory, that He is the same yesterday, to-day and for ever, and that he is a God who delights to reveal Himself by revelations, and dreams, and visions, and prophecies, by the ministering of angels, and by the miraculous gifts and power of the Holy Ghost. All who deny these things, and do them away, will be cut off from among the people, and be sent down to hell to suffer with the devil who has deceived them, and by whom they have been led captive to reject and deny the gifts of the Holy Ghost and the powers and glory of God's kingdom.

If this generation are asked to give a reason for rejecting all revelation later than John the Revelator's day, their answer is, almost universally, "We have enough, and need no more;" and we reply, yes, they have enough to send them to hell, unless they will receive more, when God in mercy offers it to them. The very Bible, which they pretend is enough, will rise up in judgment against apostate Christendom, and condemn them, because in it is taught the doctrine of continued revelation, which they have the great wickedness to reject.

But why is the devil so angry with a church under the guidance of New Revelation? Because he knows that a people who live near enough to the Lord to receive information from Him, will receive by that means a knowledge of all his cunning plans, and detect the cunning devices by which he has blinded the nations of apostate Christendom so long. To have the ancient and venerated systems of priestcraft exposed, and the false doctrines, which he has taken so much pains to introduce and maintain for so many centuries, overturned by the restoration of true Christianity again to the earth, is calculated to make the hellish hosts and all under their influence, who delight in darkness, to tremble with anxiety and through fear of the consequences.

Fear and trembling seize upon the wicked priests, whenever the sound of ancient Christianity, with its revelations, prophecies, visions and the gifts and powers of the Holy Ghost, approach their neighborhood. Their craft is in danger—they fear for their rotten, corrupt forms of religion—they fear that the people will get their

eyes open to discern the wide difference between the religion of the Bible and their powerless forms invented by the devil and his servants—they fear that their popularity will wane, and their salaries be decreased or entirely fail them. To travel without purse or scrip, as the Latter-day and Former-day Saints have done, they cannot afford to do. And then if they should do so, they would receive no reward, but condemnation for preaching false doctrines among the people.

If they preach false doctrines they think that they must be well paid: for it is the only reward that they can get, and bye-and-bye the end comes and they are hewn down and cast into the fire: their motto, then is, to live grand while they have the chance, and so long as they can delude the nations with their apostate forms of religion, under the sacred garb of Christianity, they have the prospect of waxing fat on the hard earnings of their deluded victims. No wonder then that ancient Christianity, taught by the humble servant of God, as the Holy Ghost gives him utterance, is like an arrow to the hearts of such hypocritical imposters. Oh! how abhorrent and disgusting to a humble servant of Christ, and to God, and to all His holy angels, to see Catholic and Protestant ministers enter their richly adorned churches and chapels, and there pretend to worship God, when they are as destitute of almost every feature of ancient Christianity as the devil and his angels. The days are not far distant when such base hypocrites, and all that will suffer themselves to be deceived by them, will be cast down by devouring fire, that their impositions, and their hypocrisies, and their corruptions, and all their filthiness and abominations, may cease to come up before the Lord of Hosts.

Tremble and fear! for if there ever were a generation that had need to tremble and fear, it is the present.—Tell about this being an enlightened age—an age of gospel light! Never was there an age of greater darkness since man was created upon the earth so far as it regards the religion of heaven. It is the very age predicted by Isaiah, the Prophet, when "darkness should cover the earth and gross darkness the people;" it is a day of thick darkness—darkness that has been accumulating for centuries, through the abominations practiced by the apostate nations of Christendom. Not even one ray of light from heaven has forced its passage through the dark, gloomy, dismal night with which they have been for centuries enshrowded, until an angel penetrated the depths and brought to light that sacred, heavenly, and most precious treasure—the Book of Mormon—and raised up inspired men by which light from heaven again shines on our earth. But so great are the mists of darkness, that this generation do not perceive the light. "The light shineth in darkness but the darkness comprehendeth it not."

"An age of light!" Oh tell it not in the face of high heaven! Where are your holy apostles inspired from heaven to speak the word of the Lord in the ears of fallen man? Where are your prophets to lift up their voices by the word of the Lord, and warn the nations of approaching danger? Where are your Seers, entrapped in the visions of the Almighty, bringing to light things both new and old, opening the grand events of futurity, and unlocking the hidden mysteries of the heavenly world? Where now is the voice of inspiration, and the voice of angels, to salute the ears of mortal man with glad tidings of great joy? Where now are the gifts of healing—the opening of the eyes of the blind—the unstopping of the ears of the deaf—the speaking with other tongues, and all the miraculous gifts and powers of the Holy Ghost? They are not to be found in apostate Christendom, only as enjoyed by the Latter-day Saints. Will Christendom have the unblushing impudence to call themselves the people of God, when they are destitute of all those most precious gifts promised in the gospel? "An age of light!" Oh shame! Oh impu-

dence! when will you cease to call evil good? How long will the heavens suffer such wickedness to go unpunished!

"An age of light!"—"a Christian nation!" Go to all your large cities throughout the land—find one, if you can, where there are not whoredoms and other abominations enough, committed every day, to sink the whole nation to the lowest hell. Look at the swarms of public prostitutes, permitted to roam at large and corrupt society with their accursed filthiness, and then lift your eyes to heaven and hypocritically thank God that you live in such a christian nation. Oh, fear and tremble, ye hypocrites, ye whited sepulchres, lest God shall smite you, for thus provokingly telling him that you are a christian nation! But God suffers you thus to corrupt yourselves, because you love darkness, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and false doctrines and every evil work. He will suffer you until your golden cup is full and running over, that he may visit you with a more speedy and awful judgment, and blot out your name from under heaven! Then shall the holy apostles, and prophets, and all the heavens rejoice over your downfall; for you shall fall to rise no more.

At the present time, so great is your wickedness, that silence reigns in heaven, and all eternity is pained, and the angels are waiting with longing anxiety for the great command to reap down the harvest of the earth, and bind the tares in bundles, and give them to the burning flame! And if you will not listen to the warning voice, and repent, the servants of God will not cease their cries to the heavens, until God shall come out of his hiding place, and make a full end, that the earth may be cleansed and rest for a season.

How is it, that you will not awake to a sense of the awful condition that you are in? How is it, that you will close your eyes to the signs of the times, and not perceive the day of your visitation? How is it, that you will not pay any attention to that which belongs to your peace? How is it, that you can be so hard in your hearts and blind in your minds that you cannot perceive the hand of the Lord in bringing to light the sacred Records of the ancient Israelites who dwelt upon this continent? Why do you condemn that most excellent work upon popular rumour, without even reading one page of its contents? Why will you be proud in your hearts, and exalt yourselves above all other nations, and boast in your own strength as a nation, and imagine that no evil will come upon you, though you continue in your wickedness? Why not discern and understand that it is God that has made you a strong and powerful nation, and not yourselves? It is God that setteth up and pulleth down. If you would repent, as He requires you in the Book of Mormon, you would continue to be blessed upon the land; but if you obey not, and reject His word, He will certainly visit you as it is written. Oh, then, why will you not repent? it will certainly do you no harm to repent, and forsake false doctrines, and every species of wickedness. If you repent and call upon the Lord even as our pilgrim fathers did, when they first came to this land, God will be merciful unto you and prolong your blessings in the land.—Even though you, in your darkness, may suppose the Book of Mormon an imposition, you certainly will be on the safe side if you repent and do as that book requires.

If this new revelation required you to do something that was evil, you would have some reason for distrusting it and paying no attention to it; but when it requires you to repent, and forsake every evil practice, and sets forth your evils and abominations plainly before your eyes, of which you yourselves know that you are guilty, where is your excuse for not obeying, even though you may think that it is the work of man? If it be the work of man, can you be excused, and will God overlook all the sins which you know you are guilty of and which that book accuses you of, and which it requires you to repent of?

No: you have no excuse; you well know that you ought to repent of every evil of which that book accuses you; and that God will in no wise acquit the guilty. And if you already know this, how much more ought you to fear when a professed revelation makes its appearance threatening you with awful and speedy judgment, if you do not repent.

Oh my nation! the inhabitants of this beautiful and lovely country! open your ears to the voice of your Redeemer, whose bowels of compassion yearn over you—whose voice is to all the inhabitants of the land calling upon them to repent, and turn away from all their iniquities, and be baptized in His name for the remission of their sins, that they may be filled with the Holy Ghost. Then shall ye know His voice, and the voice of his servants, and the voice of his spirit: for the spirit is light, and maketh manifest the truth, and if it be in you, you shall be the children of light and not walk in darkness.

Now what man is there in all this nation that will not acknowledge that repentance would not only be beneficial to individuals, but to the whole nation? Why then condemn the Book of Mormon, for calling upon you to do that which you know would be beneficial? But, you may reply, the Book of Mormon professes to be a New Revelation and to call upon us by authority to repent, and we do not believe in new revelation, and therefore we will not repent.—A poor excuse, indeed! that you will not do that which you acknowledge would be beneficial, because you are afraid of giving sanction to the Book of Mormon.

Another thing should cause you to fear and tremble exceedingly. You should remember that, that very book is substantiated to this generation with far greater evidence than they have for any other revelation. (See "Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon," by O. Pratt.) To reject so great evidence, and still remain in your sins will be presumptuous on your part.

Again, every man in the nation has the privilege on condition of repentance and obedience of receiving the Holy Ghost, which will most assuredly guide them into all truth, and bear record unto them of the truth of this New Revelation, so that they may have the same knowledge of the divine Authenticity of the Record as they have of any other truth. To know a thing to be true certainly would impart more happiness and joy, than to remain in uncertainty and doubt. A knowledge of the truth will give stability to the mind, so that it will not fluctuate to and fro with every wind of doctrine, invented by the cunning craftiness of uninspired men. Is there any excuse therefore for any man in the nation? which is within the power of all to obtain the most perfect knowledge that the Book of Mormon is a revelation from God? And especially when this knowledge is to be obtained by doing that which every man will acknowledge ought to be done, and which all see would be beneficial both to individuals and to the nation to do?

ZION OF ENOCH.

BY THE EDITOR.

What is the meaning of the word *Zion?* The Prophet Enochans wers this question in the following language:—"And the Lord called His people Zion, because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there was no poor among them." The Lord by the mouth of Joseph the Prophet gave the following definition:—"Let Zion rejoice, for this is Zion—*The pure in Heart.*" Enoch was called of God,

when but a young man, and was sent forth unto the antediluvian nations to preach Faith, Repentance, and Baptism for the remission of sins, and to Prophesy and warn the people of approaching judgment. Many among the nations hearkened to his voice, and received the gospel, and became the sons of God; for the Holy Ghost fell upon them, and they were born of God. These by the commandment of God, were gathered out from the nations by themselves, and they were established upon the high places of the earth and upon the mountains; and became sanctified before the Lord; "and the Lord came and dwelt with His people, and they dwelt in righteousness. The fear of the Lord was upon all nations, so great was the glory of the Lord which was upon His people."

It was under these circumstances that the Lord called his people Zion. And from what God has revealed, concerning this great continent, we have reason to believe that this is the very land where the righteous were gathered in the days of Enoch. And there are indications in the revelations which God has given us through the mouth of Joseph Smith, that this is the very land, where once flourished the garden of Eden. One thing is certain, that three years previous to Adam's death "he called Seth, Enos, Cainan, Mahalaleel, Jared, Enoch, and Mathuselah, who were all high priests, with the residue of his posterity who were righteous, into the valley of Adam—Ondi—Ahman, and there bestowed upon them his last blessing. And the Lord appeared unto them, and they rose up and blessed Adam, and called him Michael, the Prince, the Archangel. And the Lord administered comfort unto Adam, and said unto him, I have set thee to be at the head—a multitude of nations shall come of thee, and thou art a prince over them for ever," (Doc. and Cov. Sec. 2: 28.)

Here then were eight generations, including all the righteous of Adam's posterity, all assembled in the valley of "Adam—Ondi—Ahman." According to other revelations of the martyred Prophet Joseph, this valley is in the state of Missouri, only about 50 or 60 miles north of Jackson Co., where the city of Zion is to be built up in the last days. From the fact that Adam "*called*" his descendants into that valley, we have reason to believe that it was his place of residence—his old homestead, perhaps, where he may have dwelt for many centuries.

Enoch built a city, called Zion, and the people who received the gospel through his ministry dwelt "rein.—It is very probable that Jared the father of Enoch and all his Ancestors, even to Adam, were not located very far from the city of Enoch. Whether Adam and all those of his descendants who were righteous in Enoch's day still dwelt near their native country; or whether they had emigrated from some distant part of the earth in order to detach themselves from the wickedness of surrounding nations, we cannot positively determine without further revelation. As the earth was not divided into continents and islands before Enoch's day, it would not have been difficult for Adam, and the righteous of those days, to have emigrated by land from the opposite side of the globe to this country. But if the Ancestors of Enoch came with him from some distant part of the globe, it would be reasonable to suppose that they would have located themselves in the same city with him, and have been translated and caught up into heaven with him and his people. But from the fact that all his Ancestors, except Adam, were alive at the time that Zion was caught up, and that they were all left behind and lived on the earth many years after that event, it seems almost certain that they did not live in Zion; but probably were located on their old inheritances where they lived when the foundations of Zion were laid.

Mathuselah, the son of Enoch, was also left behind, and lived for some six centuries until the flood. His grand-son, Noah, most probably built the Ark in this land: if so, he must have been wafted by winds and cur-

rents for many months until he landed upon the mountains of Ararat.—Without direct revelation it would have been difficult for Noah to have determined the geographical position of his landing place; he and his sons located themselves in Asia, and it is very doubtful whether they had any idea of the great distance that intervened between them and their native country.

America, then, may be considered the Old world—the cradle of the human race—the theatre of events pertaining to the antediluvian age. From American soil was formed the first tabernacles of man and beast, fowl and creeping things. Here was the garden of the Lord, where flourished the tree of life whose fruit was calculated to impart immortality and eternal life to those who should partake thereof. Here God conversed freely with man and gave him dominion over the earth. Here Satan introduced sin, and misery, and death. Here holy messengers guarded with a flaming sword the tree of life from the hands of fallen man. Here Cain imbrued his hands in the blood of righteous Abel. Here nations multiplied on nations and waxed strong in wickedness before God. Here Enoch preached repentance and baptism for the remission of sins, and led the people of God, who overcame their enemies that came to battle against them. Here, Enoch "spake the word of the Lord, and the earth trembled, and the mountains fled, even according to his command; and the rivers of water were turned out of their course; and the roar of the lions was heard out of the wilderness; and all nations feared greatly, so powerful was the word of Enoch, and so great was the power of language which God had given him. There also came up a land out of the depth of the sea; and so great was the fear of the enemies of the people of God that they fled and stood afar off, and went upon the land which came up out of the depths of the sea. And the giants of the land, also, stood afar off; and there went forth a curse upon all the people which fought against God: and from that time forth there were wars and bloodsheds among them." Here flourished the city of Zion, built by Enoch and his people, and God chose it for his dwelling place for ever, and He came and dwelt in the midst of it; and His glory overshadowed it for upwards of three centuries, when it was taken up with all the inhabitants thereof into heaven.—Here was built an ark of safety, wherein seed of all flesh was preserved to repeople a world cleansed from wickedness by baptism in the mighty flood.

What portion of the land was taken up with the Zion of Enoch is not revealed. It seems very probable that a sufficient quantity of the earth would be translated with the city to form inheritances for the people. In what part of space this city is located is unknown. During the interval between the translation of Zion and the flood, angels came down out of heaven and appeared unto many, "and the Holy Spirit fell on many and they were caught up by the powers of heaven into Zion." The descendants of Noah not having faith sufficient to be caught up into Zion, concluded to build a tower sufficiently high to get there without being under the necessity of receiving a translation. From this it appears that the early descendants of Noah had an idea that Zion was located somewhere near the earth. Abraham sought to become an inhabitant of the same city; for, as Paul declares, "he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Abraham understood that in the translation of the city there was something more than the houses caught up: he was aware that the city had "*foundations*" as well as buildings; and he knew that God was the "*builder and maker*" of it; or, in other words, that God gave Enoch the pattern and instructed him how to build it.

There have been many conjectures among the saints in regard to the condition of the inhabitants of Enoch's city: some have supposed them still to be mortal—that they die—and that

successive generations come and go as here: others have supposed that they were only partially changed so that death could have no power over them; conjecturing that the change was similar to that received by the three Nephites, mentioned in the Book of Mormon, and that they will not receive a full change until the coming of Christ, or the last day: Others suppose them to have been changed from mortality to immortality. We have no revelation to decide directly which of these suppositions is correct; although we are inclined to believe that the latter supposition is the most probable. But this is a subject which does not immediately concern us, as a matter of importance; God is willing for us to know all about the Zion of Enoch, and about many other things that are good, and great, and glorious, just as fast as we will prepare our hearts to receive knowledge: and it is only on account of our darkness, unbelief, and disobedience that many mysteries are withheld from us.

To suppose that the inhabitants of the city of Enoch have been caught away to some other planetary body, and that they have there continued to multiply a fleshly offspring, would necessarily involve the idea of mortality and death; for we know of no revelation that indicates that a fleshly offspring could be derived from immortal parents. If therefore, a fleshly offspring are begotten in the Zion of Enoch, then mortality and death reign among them; and generation must have succeeded generation; and there has been time enough for them to have peopled several worlds as large as this. On the other hand, if they were immortal, their offspring must have been spirits; and as in this condition none of their children could multiply, the increase would be far less. Indeed, a city containing four hundred thousand inhabitants, consisting of an equal number of immortal males and females, would require about three hundred thousand years to people one world with the same number of inhabitants as have already come upon our globe; that is, supposing the rate of increase to be two hundred thousand per year.

However far the Zion of Enoch may be from the earth's appointed orbit, it is certain, according to the promise of God, that it will return again to the earth at the second coming of Christ. We can hardly believe that this city was taken away beyond the limits of the Solar system; for if it had been carried with a velocity of one mile per minute, it would have required upwards of five thousand years to have gone as far as the planet Neptune: and with that velocity it would have required over ten thousand years to go there and return. As an immortal body has the power of rendering itself invisible, it is reasonable to infer that a city wrought upon by the power of God, and changed in its nature, could be rendered invisible, and still be within our immediate vicinity.

One of the most beautiful characteristics of the antediluvian Zion, was that "they were of one heart and one mind, and there were no poor among them," a perfect union of sentiment and feeling: no bitterness—no hatred—no slandering or reviling—no defrauding or taking the advantage one of another—no person seeking to aggrandize himself by heaping up riches while others were poor—no selfishness or pride—no hypocrisy or affectation: but every one loved his neighbor as himself—every one studied the welfare of the whole—every one considered himself as only a steward over the things committed to his charge: it was all considered the Lord's, and ready to be appropriated for any purpose which the Lord should direct. They were equal in earthly things, therefore the Lord made them equal in heavenly things. Nothing short of continued revelation could ever have brought about an order of things so perfect. Such union was strength and power; such oneness was after the order of heaven: the powers of the earth could not hold them—the laws of nature could not retain them: their faith laid hold on immortality—on eternal life—on the powers of heaven—on heavenly things;

the veil was parted and could no more be closed—the city of Zion fled from earth to heaven there to be reserved until a day of righteousness should come, when the earth should rest; then shall they return to their native land and their city with them; then shall be fulfilled the words of Isaiah: "Thy watchmen shall lift up their voice, and with the voice together shall they sing; for they shall see eye to eye when the Lord shall bring again Zion." Yes: when the Lord brings again the Zion of Enoch from heaven to earth the watchman of the Latter day Zion shall see eye to eye with the watchman of the Zion from heaven: then shall ancient and modern saints embrace each other, and their hearts shall be full of joy; for the Lord himself will be there, and He will comfort his people for evermore.

LATTER-DAY ZION.

BY THE EDITOR.

The Latter-Day Zion will resemble, in most particulars, the Zion of Enoch: it will be established upon the same celestial laws—be built upon the same gospel, and be guided by continued revelation. Its inhabitants, like those of the antediluvian Zion, will be the righteous gathered out from all nations: the glory of God will be seen upon it; and His power will be manifested there, even as in the Zion of old. All the blessings and grand characteristics which were exhibited in ancient Zion will be shown forth in the Latter-Day Zion. As the Zion of Enoch was caught up by the powers of heaven, so will the Latter-Day Zion be taken up into the cloud when the heavens are opened and the face of the Lord is unveiled at His second coming.

As the building up of Zion in the last days is to be a work of so great a magnitude, it will not, we trust, be uninteresting to our readers if we refer to some of the ancient prophecies relative to it; especially as the day is at hand when the Lord has laid the foundation and commenced the fulfilment of the great work.

The Psalmist, speaking prophetically, exclaims, "Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come. For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof. So the heathen shall fear the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth thy glory. When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in His glory. He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer. This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord. For He hath looked down from the height of His sanctuary; from heaven did the Lord behold the earth; to hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death; to declare the name of the Lord in Zion, and His praise in Jerusalem when the people are gathered together, and the kingdoms to serve the Lord." (Psalm 102: 13–22.)

From this we learn that the building up and the favouring of Zion was not to take place in that age, for it is expressly declared, that what was then written was for the benefit of "a generation to come." That it had no reference to the Christian Church built up in the days of the apostles, is certain from the declaration that, "When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in His glory." It was to be a work, therefore, immediately preceding the glorious appearing of our Lord. It will be a work in which the power of God will be so marvelously displayed, that it will excite the attention of whole nations and kingdoms to that degree, that they will actually gather together among the people of Zion to serve

the Lord. One object they will have in view in gathering, will be to worship the Lord in His house, and to receive ordinances therein. Or as the Prophet Isaiah, when speaking of this subject, says, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." (Isaiah 2:2–4.)

It is very evident from this that there will be a glory and power connected with the establishment of the house of the Lord, that will be sufficient to cause whole nations and kingdoms to flow unto it. They flow to the mountains where the house of the God of Jacob is erected, because they can there be taught in the ways of the Lord, and receive information that is impossible for them to receive in their own lands. In Zion a law will be given by the Great Law Giver, which will be for the government of all nations; and all nations will have to submit to that law, or be destroyed from the earth: for the "Lord will rebuke strong nations afar off." The law for the government of all nations will go forth from Zion the same as the laws for the government of the United States now go forth from Washington. Zion will be the seat of government, and her officers will be far more respected, and have far more influence, than those of any government upon the earth; all nations will yield the most perfect obedience to their commands and counsels. There will be no party politicians, and party newspapers to speak evil of them, as they now do of the President and highest authorities of this nation: a word from them will control all the inhabitants of the earth as one man. This great influence and high respect will not be obtained by swaying the sceptre of tyrants—by binding the people down with the strong arm of oppression; but it will be because of their righteousness, and their faith in God, and because their power is given to them from God; and they act, and speak, and counsel, and command in His name and by His authority; and, therefore, the nations must obey or incur the displeasure of Him who governs all things, according to His own will and pleasure.

The Lord says, concerning Zion, "And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called The city of righteousness—the faithful city." (Isaiah 1:26.) "I will also make thy officers peace, and thine exactors reighteousness." (Isaiah 60:17.) When the Lord restores the judges, counsellors and officers of Zion, after the same order as in the ancient Zion, or among Israel, He will choose good and righteous men who can be entrusted to direct the governmental affairs of every nation under heaven, who will see that the laws issued from Zion are properly respected and obeyed.

Ambitious politicians are now striving, contending, and exerting all their power in order to obtain the presidential chair or a seat in Congress. If they can only arise high enough to preside over this nation for four years, they think it wonderful honor. O fools! how little do they know what true honor is! We would rather be honored with the office of deacon, among the high and honorable people of Zion, than to be elected President of the United States; for the latter is but a momentary office, expiring at the close of four short years; while the former will endure for ever; or rather, he who honors the office of deacon, and faithfully discharges the

duties of the same, will receive a crown, and kingdom, and power, and authority, and greatness, and honor, and glory, that will never have an end: and even in this life the days will come that deacons in Zion will be more honored and more respected, than any emperor, king or president, now ruling among the nations.

Before Zion can partake of the glory and honor promised to her, she will be hated, afflicted, and despised by the wicked: and because she does not, at first, give heed in all things to the word of the Lord, He will chasten her, and for a moment hide His face from her, and forsake her; and she will be as a wife of youth, forsaken and grieved in spirit. And in the midst of her affliction she will exclaim, "The Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me." But the Lord saith, "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me." (Isaiah 49: 14, 15.) All the shame and reproach which she has suffered from her enemies will be wiped away: hence, Isaiah says, "Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed; neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more. For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of Hosts is His name; and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; the God of the whole earth shall He be called. For the Lord hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God. For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord thy redeemer." (Isaiah 54: 4–8.)

Though Zion has been driven by these United States, and been persecuted, hated, and despised, let her not be discouraged, nor faint-hearted, nor afraid; for God will surely remember His kindness towards her, to bring to pass all that is written. As the Lord has "sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so hath He sworn that he would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee." And again for the encouragement of Zion in her affliction, the Lord says, "for the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed: but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my people be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee. O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires. And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones. And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children." (Isaiah 54: 9–13.)

When the city of Zion is built up in Jackson county, in the state of Missouri, with all the precious stones spoken of in the above quotation, it seems that they will be no more "afflicted and tossed to and fro and not comforted." Mob violence will no more prevail against them, providing that they continue in righteousness. For the Lord says, "In righteousness shalt thou be established; thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror: for it shall not come near thee." (verse 14.) Their enemies no doubt will even then seek their overthrow, but they will be completely disappointed. "Behold they shall surely gather together, but not by me, whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake." (Verse 15.)

Should the enemies of Zion even invent new weapons of warfare, and think to prevail against her by that means, it will be useless for them to try it; for the Lord says. "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper;; and every tongue that shall

rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord." (Verse 17.)

The Lord will not only deliver Zion from all her enemies, but He will actually make all nations serve her, as will be seen by the following quotation:—"And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee: for in my wrath I smote thee, but in my favour have I had mercy on thee. Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought.—For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted."—"The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the Lord, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel." (Isaiah 60 : 10, 11, 12, 14.)

O how great must be the glory and power of the Lord to cause kings to rise up and leave their native country to visit Zion! The forces of the Gentiles will come to her as a flowing stream whose waters cease not, day nor night: they will come like clouds flying, and like doves seeking refuge in their windows from storms and tempests. What a change of sentiments and feelings there must be, to cause those who have despised the saints to bow themselves down at the soles of their feet! if any nations are too stubborn or too proud to show this respect, and to serve Zion, they will have the alternative of being destroyed and utterly wasted.

But why does the Holy One of Zion confer this honor upon his people? Because they have patiently submitted to every kind of insult and abuse that the Gentiles could heap upon them for the truth's sake: because they have been "afflicted and tossed to and fro" by their enemies; and because in all their tribulation, they have held fast the truth. And therefore, will the Lord place them, as the head of the nations; and instead of being compelled to labor and toil to build the walls of Zion, and to take care of their flocks and cultivate the earth, the Lord will cause this to be done by strangers. "And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers. But ye shall be named, The Priests of the Lord: men shall call you, The Ministers of our God." (Isaiah 61 : 5, 6.)

The children of Zion having been robbed and driven from county to county and from state to state, and even from the United States, and having suffered the loss, time after time, of their houses, and lands, and of their hard earned labors, the Lord will compensate them by giving them the riches of the Gentiles; hence, He says "ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves. For your shame ye shall have double; and for confusion they shall rejoice in their portion: therefore in their land they shall possess the double; everlasting joy shall be unto them." (Isaiah 61: 6, 7.) "Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man went through thee, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations. Thou shalt also suck the milk of the Gentiles, and shalt suck the breasts of kings: and thou shalt know that I the Lord am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob. For brass I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood brass, and for stones iron." "Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the Lord thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee." (Isaiah 60: 9, 15, 16.)

Contrast this glory, and honor, and majesty, and greatness, and riches with the past and present condition of Zion; and then let her sons shout

aloud for joy, and sing with gladness of heart: though Zion is now small and little, remember what the Lord hath said concerning her: "A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the Lord will hasten it in its time." (Isaiah 60: 22.) "Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children." (Isaiah 66: 8.) Zion will become a strong nation suddenly; her increase will be at once; and they will return to their waste and desolate cities which the Gentiles have robbed them of; and their former possessions will be too small for them. Then shall the following words of Isaiah be fulfilled "Thy waste, and thy desolate places, and the land of thy destruction, shall even now be too narrow by reason of the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away. The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other," (that is after the other has been driven out and forced to seek refuge in the Rocky mountains) "shall say again in thine ears, the place is too straight for me: give place to me that I may dwell. Then shalt thou say in thine heart: Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? and who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where had they been?" (Isaiah 49: 19—21.) Their waste and desolate places which were, by mob violence, forcibly wrested from them, not being sufficient to contain the vast number of the saints, they will spread forth into all quarters of the land. Then shall another prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled: "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations; spare not, lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes; for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left: and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited." (Isaiah 54: 2, 3.)

The desolate cities of the Gentiles, which have been left desolate by the great and terrible wars among themselves will in that day be inhabited by the children of Zion; for the children of the "married wife" or of the Gentiles who in ancient times became the married wife, instead of Israel, will be, because of wickedness, greatly diminished, while the children of the desolate, whom the Lord has for a small moment apparently forsaken, will speedily become a strong nation: though barren, and a captive, wandering to and fro, despised, and afflicted, and tormented, and cast out into the mountains and deserts, and hated by the whole United States, yet the words of Isaiah shall be fulfilled, and Zion shall sing and forget the reproach of her youth. "Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear, break forth into singing and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate, than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord." (54: 1.) The children of Zion, therefore, will, in that day, be more numerous than the nation who has oppressed them, and trodden them under their feet.

Hear another prophecy, "Thus saith the Lord God, behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face towards the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the Lord: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me. Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered? But thus saith the Lord, even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children. And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh: and they shall be drunken with their own

blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I the Lord am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob." (Isaiah 49: 22—26.)

From this prophecy, it will be seen that the Lord commences His work for the gathering of his people by lifting up His hand to the Gentiles and by setting up a standard to the people. This work has already commenced among this Gentile nation. He has already lifted up his hand, by sending among them a great prophet to bring forth that sacred and holy Record—the Book of Mormon, as a "standard to the people." And the time is close at hand when the kings and the queens of the Gentiles will assist in gathering many of the descendants of Israel unto Zion upon this land, while those of the house of Judah will flee to their own land, even to Jerusalem, where they will suffer many afflictions and great chastisements, because of their unbelief in the true Messiah; but the believing of the other tribes will gather to Zion, in America, where they will remain until the full time for their return to receive their ancient inheritances in Palestine.

The American Indians, who are a remnant of Israel, will gather to Zion; for they will believe in the history of their forefathers, contained in the Book of Mormon; they will repent of all their sins, and become a righteous branch of the house of Israel: and this work will be a speedy work among them, resembling the birth of a nation in a day; and all the promises that the Lord has made to Israel and to the Latter-Day Zion, will be realized by these remnants of Israel in America. While their enemies that have oppressed them will be fed with their own flesh, and be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine; and all flesh, from one end of the earth to the other, shall know that it is the Lord who has humbled the pride and haughtiness of this nation, and exalted the remnant of Israel upon the land. Then Zion shall be clothed in her beautiful garments, and be armed with strength; the bands of her neck shall be broken off, and she shall be free; her ensign shall be lifted on high to welcome the nations; her light shall be as the sun to enlighten the world; her tabernacles shall be the dwelling place of the Most High; her dwellings shall be encircled with glory: a cloud by day and a fire by night shall be her defence; her walls shall be called Salvation, and her gates Praise. Violence shall no more be heard in the land; wasting nor destruction within her borders. Then America shall be called the land of the Lord, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High: then shall the fear of the Lord be upon all nations, upon their kings, and upon their princes, and upon their nobles, and upon their rulers; and all kindreds and tongues shall see the salvation of the Lord, and behold His glory; and submit themselves to His laws, for the whole earth shall be full of His glory; and God himself will be in the midst of His people and reign over all flesh.

But before that day shall come, what sorrow—what mourning—what lamentations will be heard in the earth! Nations shall rush fiercely on nations—thrones be overturned—kingdoms be removed, and the earth will be soaked with blood. Every nation under Heaven will be at war except Zion. The city of Zion will be the only place of refuge. There shall be shelter from the furious storms, and tempests, and whirlwinds, that will agitate the nations and toss them to and fro upon the raging billows. There the righteous shall find safety and dwell securely in peaceable habitations; and none shall molest them or make them afraid. Oh, that the people would open their eyes and discern the signs of the times! for if they will not take warning, they must perish! But they rush blindly on, giving no heed to the prophecies of the holy prophets, nor to the voice of the Lord which is kindly calling after them; nor to the voice of His servants, who are laboring day and night to rescue them

from the coming evils! The voice of mercy falls listlessly upon their ears, or is entirely lost in the confusion of great Babylon! Gladly would we awake them to the sense of the awful dangers which threaten them; but the slumbers of death have taken a firm hold upon them, and they are prepared for the slaughter, and to the slaughter they will go.

Let the saints study the prophecies diligently, and then look at the signs of the times; and they will see the hand writing of destruction in broad and legible characters written upon all the thrones, and kingdoms, and nations of great Babylon. Hear, then, Oh ye saints, the great voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, O my people, lest ye partake of her sins, and receive of her plagues; for her sins have reached to the heavens, and God hath remembered her iniquities." Therefore, flee ye, get ye out of the midst of her! Stay not; tarry not, lest while you linger, some sore calamity or sudden evil befall you. We speak more particularly of the saints in the United States. The destroyer is sent forth to lay waste and destroy, and his mission is to the nations of Babylon, and he will not return nor cease, until he hath made a full end.

UTAH.

Our latest intelligence from Utah is up to the 12th of Dec. All things apparently were in a prosperous condition. Two volunteer companies, under the direction of Elder Orson Hyde, had started in the month of Nov. to form a settlement between one and two hundred miles east of Salt Lake City, on Green river. They were well fitted out with farming utensils, and every thing necessary for the formation of a permanent settlement. A colony formed in that vicinity will be of great importance in rendering aid and assistance to the weary emigrant, as he pursues his tedious and lonely track towards Oregon and California. The emigrating Saints will, also, reap much benefit in finding settlements of their own brethren near two hundred miles east of their destination. It is to be hoped that this little colony will flourish and prosper.

The Indians of the territory appear to be more friendly than they were a few months since. The massacre of Captain Gunnison and party was by a band of the *Par-van-tes* who were highly exasperated by the brutal conduct of a company of California emigrants, under the command of a man by the name of Hillsworth, who had wantonly killed one of their number and wounded two others; previous to this, that small tribe had been friendly with the whites. The Saints have constantly studied the welfare of the red-men, although they have, in some few instances, been reluctantly compelled to defend themselves against their depradations. The Indians in that territory, near our settlements, are in a ten fold more prosperous condition than they were previous to the location of the Saints in the country. Through the wise and humane policy of Governor Young, and of the people generally, there is a bright prospect of extending civilization and Christianity among the uncultivated and savage tribes of the interior. Already many of their children are being comfortably clothed and fed, and are acquiring the first rudiments of an English education. And it is to be hoped, that not many years hence, we shall see whole tribes laying aside the tomahawk and scalping knife, and pursuing the peaceful avocations of a civilized life.